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Fredia S. Wadley, MD, Health Officer

September 19, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Each year, millions of children get sick with seasonal influenza; thousands of children are hospitalized and some children die from flu.

The Talbot County Health Department (TCHD) is working with your child's school to offer FREE seasonal flu shots. **Please remember that a parent or guardian must be present with all elementary aged school children in order for their child to receive the flu shot. Children in Pre-K through Fifth grade will only be offered flu shots during evening clinics. Middle and High school students will receive their Flu shot during regular school hours.** The Flu shot is the best protection against the flu. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is not recommending the use of flu mist this flu season due to low efficacy.

The attached 2017 Consent form **MUST BE FULLY COMPLETED** and returned along with a signed Notice of Privacy Practices (HIPAA) form. **For the dates and times for each school's clinic please see page 2.**

When completing the consent form, please answer all questions, sign, and date the form. If a form is incomplete, it will be returned to you. You must return the corrected form the next day with your child. A nurse will review the Flu form to determine if your child is eligible to receive flu vaccine and whether your child will need a second dose.

We will hold your child's Flu Form until the scheduled clinic date for your school. If a parent or guardian is unable to take their child, then written consent must be sent with the person who will bring your child and they are required be over the age of 18.

If you have questions about the Flu shot or the Flu clinics, please call the school nurse or TCHD at 410-819-5600. The information is also available in Spanish at TCHD or on our website.

Sincerely,

Fredia S. Wadley, MD
Health Officer